

Legal continuing Education Credits and Veterinary Continuing Education Credits are pending. A light breakfast, buffet lunch and snack is provided. For more information, call (615) 898-7740

## Registration Form

Please complete and return by mail with \$15 payment by February 25th to reserve your seat.

Name

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Address

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Phone Number

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Email Address

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Agency

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Title

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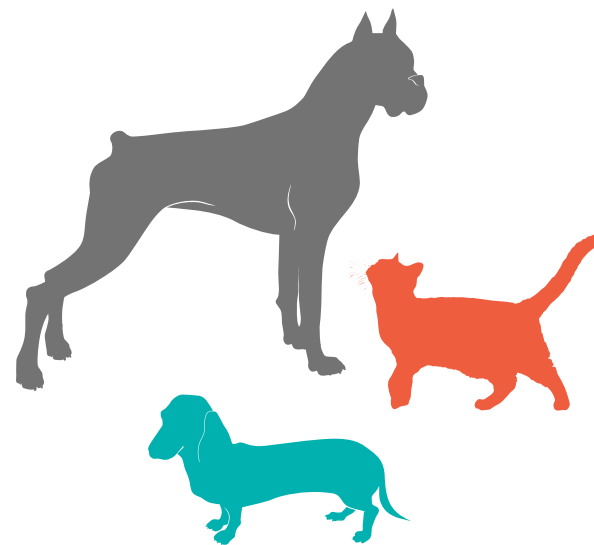
Mail to:  
Rutherford County PAWS  
285 John R. Rice Blvd.  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

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# Animal Abuse and Effective Responses: Addressing a Public Safety Issue

**March 7, 2014**

Smyrna Town Centre  
100 Sam Ridley Parkway, Smyrna, TN



*Bringing together animal welfare professionals,  
prosecutors, veterinarians and law enforcement*

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# Schedule

8:30 AM	<b>Arrival and Welcome</b> Light breakfast provided
9:00 - 10:15 AM	<b>Understanding why the Link between violence to animals and people is important in your work</b> By Allie Phillips National District Attorneys Association Director, National Center for Prosecution of Animal Abuse Deputy Director, National Center for Prosecution of Child Abuse
10:15 - 10:30 AM	<b>Break</b>
10:30 - 11:00 AM	<b>Working with your Prosecutor</b> By Allie Phillips National District Attorneys Association Director, National Center for Prosecution of Animal Abuse Deputy Director, National Center for Prosecution of Child Abuse
11:00 - 12:00 PM	<b>Working Together in a Coalition: Saving Lives</b> By Allie Phillips National District Attorneys Association Director, National Center for Prosecution of Animal Abuse Deputy Director, National Center for Prosecution of Child Abuse
12:00 - 1:00 PM	<b>Lunch</b> A buffet lunch is provided
1:00 - 2:45 PM	<b>From Crime Scene to Courtroom: Investigating and Prosecuting Animal Abuse</b> By Diane Balkin Retired Deputy District Attorney (Denver, CO) Attorney, Animal Legal Defense Fund
2:45 - 3:00 PM	<b>Break</b> Snack provided
3:00 - 4:00 PM	<b>Panel Discussion on Improving Response and Handling of Animal Abuse Cases</b>
4:00 - 4:30 PM	<b>Implementation: Question and Answer</b>

# Speakers



**Diane Balkin** is a contract attorney for ALDF's Criminal Justice Program. She began her career as a prosecutor in the Denver District Attorney's Office in 1979, where she has worked for the last 32 years. When she retired from the DA's office on July 15, 2011, Diane was the Chief Deputy District Attorney (trial attorney) where she prosecuted all types of felonies (including homicides) and supervised a team of junior lawyers and support staff. Diane also served as the "animal crimes" prosecutor in her office where she demonstrated time and time again her commitment to ensuring both an effective investigation and an aggressive prosecution of every animal cruelty case within her jurisdiction. Prior to becoming Chief Deputy, Diane served as the director of the Complex Prosecution Division where she was the legal advisor to the Denver County Statutory Grand Jury and she supervised the investigation and prosecution of crimes committed against the elderly. She has also served as the director of the Juvenile Division and the Domestic Violence Unit. Diane was appointed to the Colorado State Board of Veterinary Medicine in June 2001 and served on the Board for 8 years. She received her J.D. in 1977 from the University of Denver and is a nationally ranked lecturer on animal cruelty investigations and prosecutions with a strong emphasis on training veterinarians.



**Joshua Crain** earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. Afterwards, Joshua attended the Widener University School of Law in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. During law school, Joshua was President of the Moot Court Honor Society. He was recognized as Outstanding Executive Board Member and received the Outstanding Service Award by the University. Joshua began his legal career as an Assistant District Attorney General in Warren County, Tennessee where he gained valuable trial experience. During his time as an Assistant District Attorney General Joshua tried numerous cases before a jury, including major felonies such as rape, kidnapping, and murder. In 2011 Joshua was recognized by the Animal Legal Defense Fund as one of America's Top 10 Animal Defenders for his work prosecuting animal abuse cases. In November 2011 Joshua started his private practice in Warren County before returning to Murfreesboro in May of 2012. In 2013 The National Trial Lawyers named Joshua a "Top 100 Trial Lawyer."



**Allie Phillips** is a nationally-recognized author, attorney and advocate for animals and vulnerable victims. She is a legal expert on the linkage between violence to animals and people, therapy animals helping crime victims, animal protection and prosecution, and human-animal interactions. She is licensed to practice law in Michigan and Maryland and has significant criminal prosecution trial experience as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney in Michigan. She developed and managed national initiatives including creating the first written guidelines how housing pets at family violence shelters (now Sheltering Animals & Families Together (SAF-T)™) and Therapy Animals Supporting Kids (TASK)™ Program. In 2011, Ms. Phillips rejoined NDAA to launch the National Center for Prosecution of Animal Abuse and to integrate awareness of animals into child protection trainings, including training on the linkages between violence to animals and people, children exposed to animal abuse, and how therapy animals can help maltreated children. Her work has been featured on The Today Show, and in The Washington Post, USA Today, Denver Post, Cat Fancy Magazine, Chatelaine Magazine (Canada), Colorado Public Radio, Washington Public Radio, and dozens of national animal radio talk shows.



**Shannon Poindexter** is originally from San Jose, California. In 1990, she received her undergraduate degree from Santa Clara University where she majored in Economics and Spanish. In 1996, Ms. Poindexter received her J.D. from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law before moving to West Tennessee where she began her legal career as an Assistant District Attorney in Gibson County in 1997. Ms. Poindexter is licensed in both California and Tennessee. Ms. Poindexter has been an Assistant DA for Davidson County, Tennessee since 2006. Her current assignment is in Criminal Court, Division IV, prosecuting of all type of felony criminal cases. Until recently, she volunteered on the leadership committee and handled financial matters for a local animal welfare group, East C.A.N. (East Nashville Community Action Network). Ms. Poindexter is a lifelong animal lover, has one dog ("Rosemund") and continues to provide emergency foster services for East C.A.N. In addition to her regular duties, Ms. Poindexter is a member of the Metro Animal Care and Control ("MACC") Advisory Council; serves as liaison between MACC and the District Attorney's office; and is the lead prosecutor for animal abuse and cruelty cases in Davidson County.